

# BROWNING GUN ACCLAIMED AS BEST IN WORLD

Congressmen and Military Experts See Tests of New Machine Rifle.

READY NOW FOR ARMY

Lightest of Any Made and Can Be Fired Either From Hip or Shoulder.

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WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—The opinion of a host of experts who witnessed today the first demonstration of the new Browning machine gun on the Congress Heights rifle range in the United States Army now has a weapon superior to any in the world.

To the satisfaction of all observers it was shown that Yankee ingenuity once more had stepped in to meet a need developed on the battlefield and had produced a weapon which would be used and fired by charging men either sighting from the shoulder or hip, thus having a distinct advantage of the ordinary machine gun, which is not so handy, and over the ordinary rifle, which has no machine fire.

In short the new American weapon is a machine gun which can be handled as easily as a rifle. It does not have to be set up like the Lewis gun, but is ready for instant use. Such a gun has long been the goal of gunmakers the world over.

## Not One Gun Approaches It.

Only one other gun has approached the new Browning machine gun, which is of the same general type, although heavier. But the new Browning gun, soon to be turned out by the thousands on the quantity production basis, is far superior, it was proved today, in that it weighs but fifteen pounds, as against twenty for the Lewis gun, and it can be sighted and fired from the shoulder like an ordinary rifle, firing single shots or semi-automatically, a shot every second or every third shot, or as a machine gun with practically continuous fire.

Today's first demonstration of the gun which has been so much talked about and which the War Department decided upon despite the delay its development would cause brought out a crowd of prominent officials of this and allied governments eager to see what the American gunmakers had accomplished.

## Meets Every Test.

Every test which was asked for or suggested by spectators was given today with only a slight hitch. In the one instance which was not perfect a cartridge failed to explode. This was found later to be a faulty cartridge.

Army officers who viewed the exhaustive test and demonstration were enthusiastic in approval of the weapon as an offensive arm, and the firing squad, a special detail of experts, which was used to test the machine gun, shared this enthusiasm. The gun was declared to be superior to any weapon of its sort for use by the American and allied armies will put machine guns in France.

Officers detailed here on the various allied military missions were impressed, and refrained from expressions which might result in comparisons with similar weapons in use abroad.

Cooling System Unnecessary.

Despite the fact that gases exerting a pressure of 50,000 pounds to the square inch are generated each time a cartridge is fired in the light Browning gun, creating a terrific heat, it was found that the liquid cooling system, which is the dominant feature of lightness in the weapon by providing a water cooling system. The construction of the weapon is so simple that 250 cartridges can be fired without the necessity of stopping to permit the weapon to cool off. When this finally becomes a necessity the guns can be quickly and easily changed.

Officers laid stress today on the extreme simplicity of the weapon which has been adopted as the standard machine gun for the American troops abroad. It has two great advantages, they pointed out, the first being that it is easily simplified and the second the fact that it is so simple that it can be repaired by a soldier in the field.

## Wrench Only Necessary Tool.

The ejection of used cartridges is at the side of the gun, the empty shells being thrown out by the action of the gas. As to the beyond the notice of the soldier operating the weapon. No bag of tools is necessary to take down or assemble the Browning machine, which is a small wrench being necessary and a cartridge used as a tool is usually sufficient.

The War Department made it known today that the Browning gun has met and passed successfully tests at the hands of special boards of officers which never would be approached in severity actual use. Two of the features of these tests were applying corroding chemical to the gun to create a rusting condition, and the other, putting the gun in such condition that if a soldier permitted it would subject him to instant court martial. The gun was successful under these hard and extraordinary tests.

## In Given Endurance Test.

Special boards put the gun through an endurance test, firing bursts of 500 and 100 shots without permitting any cooling. The barrel was then plunged into cold water, causing the gas cylinder tube to crack on account of the sudden contraction of the metal. This tube was changed and the gun worked as well as ever. After that cooling out the inordinate firing was done by sponging the barrel with cold water with no ill effects. In using the gun in battle the gunner will carry 120 rounds of ammunition in his bandolier and his two assistants will carry 400 and 240 rounds respectively.

Senators and Representatives who viewed the demonstration today took a hand in it. Senator Woodworth distinguished himself by firing a shot.

# FOUR ENGINES ON KAISER'S HUGE NEW BOMBING PLANES

Planned to Carry Enormous Bombs Designed to Raze Whole Sections of Cities—Allies Discount Their Efficiency.

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WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—The aviation correspondent of the Manchester Guardian contributes the following:

"Much has appeared in print lately about the German multiple engine airplane, known in the German press as the Riesenflugzeug, or giant airplane. It is a considerable time since it was reported, but so far it appears that, as regards war purposes, they will remain for a considerable period nothing more than a bogey.

"So far as information is available, it appears that these machines are very big airplanes, equipped with four engines, placed between the wings in much the same way as the engines of the biplane. A six engine type of airplane, which they are tandem fashion, so that one set of engines on each side drives the propellers of the air screw behind. The other set operates a tractor screw in front.

"There are several ways in which these engines could be placed on giant airplanes. A six engine type of airplane, which they are tandem fashion, so that one set of engines on each side drives the propellers of the air screw behind. The other set operates a tractor screw in front.

"The chief reason given for the building of these enormous machines is that they may carry bombs, which, according to the thousands of the War Department, are expected to be used in the near future. It is believed that the carrying of two or three bombs of 1000 pounds apiece, they probably will carry two or three bombs of 1000 pounds apiece, or possibly one enormous bomb of even greater weight.

"Without denying the capacity of these machines to carry such enormous bombs, one recalls how the Germans expected at least as much of the Zeppelins early in the war, and certainly no less of the airships in the last twelve months. So we must decline to be alarmed.

"The Germans appear to imagine these huge machines virtually can be made invulnerable to attack by hostile aircraft, because they can carry so many machine guns and gunners and will afford such a steady platform that it will be folly to attack them. However, it is exceedingly difficult to hit the small, fast machines.

# 20 DIE AS NAVY TUG FOUNDERS

Cherokee Wrecked by Gale Disasters Getting Beyond Control of Police and Some Are Disarmed.

Fifteen Miles Off the Maryland Coast.

TEN MEN ARE RESCUED MORE CATTLE DRIVEN OFF

Two More Picked Up From Raft by British Ship Die of Exposure.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 27.—Twenty-nine are believed to have lost their lives yesterday morning when the seagoing tug Cherokee foundered in a severe gale fifteen miles off the Maryland coast.

Ten survivors and the bodies of eight other members of the crew of thirty-nine were brought here today on the Philadelphia Navy Yard. No trace of the remaining members of the crew was found. Among those missing is Junior Lieutenant Edward D. Newell, the commander of the tug. Ordinarily the Cherokee carried a crew of forty, but one man was not aboard.

The survivors landed at Philadelphia and were taken to the Naval Hospital. SENATOR E. N. C. N. R. Chief boatswain, 521 Commercial street, Boston. SENATOR E. N. C. N. R. Chief boatswain, 521 Commercial street, Boston. SENATOR E. N. C. N. R. Chief boatswain, 521 Commercial street, Boston.

According to the captain of one of the rescue ships, the primary cause of the disaster was the blowing of the steering gear. A fifty mile northwest gale was blowing at the time and the little vessel was at the mercy of mountainous waves. The tug was thrown broadside to the waves and wallowed in the turbulent sea until her hatches were battered in. In the meantime two rafts were launched and the crew abandoned the tug as she was about to founder.

"I saw wreckage about six miles from the scene of the disaster," said the captain. "I saw a raft with an upturned boat and two men on it. I saw a small vessel to give assistance to the living men."

Virtually all the twelve men who were rescued were unconscious when picked up. Some were washed overboard and two were washed overboard and two were washed overboard.

Radio Man Is Faithful.

The wireless operator aboard the Cherokee stuck to his post to the end. The operator at the Naval Reserve Station at Cape May, N. J., picked up the signal at 11:35 p. m. and at 12:35 p. m. Two were washed overboard and two were washed overboard.

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# JAPAN SEEKING PERMISSION TO ACT IN SIBERIA

Parleying With Allies Also on Saving Vast Stores of Munitions.

MOVE EXPECTED SOON

America, With 20,000 Troops in Philippines, Only Nation That Could Participate.

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LONDON, Feb. 27.—The censorship has been drawn very close in Japan, but the expectation in Japanese circles in London is that the island empire is on the verge of decisive action, notably in the direction of Vladivostok and Harbin.

Japan's proposal to the Entente Powers and to the United States with regard to a cooperative campaign in the eastern part of Siberia possibly presages one of the most important developments of the war. The nature of these proposals remains secret, but there seems little reason to doubt that the island empire is prepared to assist the Allies in the Siberian campaign, heretofore as well as to prevent a situation which might place her in a critical situation in the event of a victorious Germany.

Cannot Remain Inactive.

Viscount Motono's statement that Japan is prepared to take the most decided action in the Siberian campaign with Germany was made after a full exchange of views between Japanese statesmen and those of the allied governments on the subject of the Siberian campaign. The Japanese statesmen are of the opinion that the collapse of Russia and the advance of German forces into the interior of that country. These developments would be a disaster to the world, and Japan cannot and will not remain inactive while the balance of power in eastern Asia is threatened, as would be the case if Germany overran Siberia and Manchuria. There are the vast supplies of munitions in the interior of that country. These developments would be a disaster to the world, and Japan cannot and will not remain inactive while the balance of power in eastern Asia is threatened, as would be the case if Germany overran Siberia and Manchuria. There are the vast supplies of munitions in the interior of that country.

Soon to Reach Petrograd.

Japan's pressing interests have dictated the necessity for a speedy and decisive action. The Japanese Ambassador had several recent conferences with Mr. Balfour at the Foreign Office. The Japanese Ambassador had several recent conferences with Mr. Balfour at the Foreign Office. The Japanese Ambassador had several recent conferences with Mr. Balfour at the Foreign Office.

Will Fight for All Offices.

During the discussion the question of party funds dropped up. One delegate pointed out that both the big political parties and the smaller ones were engaged in their constituencies, a state of affairs which would be fatal to the aspirations of labor. One delegate said: "We are striking for the salvation of mankind. Every ounce of our energy should be devoted to fighting for positions, but the conference voted strongly for a flat rate for all affiliated members."

CAILLAUX CAN'T GO TO TRIAL

Lawsuits Must Try Legal Suits With Plaintiff Absent.

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PARIS, Feb. 27.—The action of former Premier Caillaux, directed against certain newspapers and editors has been set back by a decision of the court in which Caillaux is under arrest here.

REPORTS 8 DEAD, 2 WOUNDED.

Pershing's List Contains Six Fatal Cases of Disease.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—Lieut. Pershing reported today that Private Frank Belknap, 243 East Front street, Erie, Pa., was killed and Lieut. Robert H. Cooper, Smithfield, Okla., and Private Ziegler, 1000 W. 10th street, were slightly wounded in action February 24.

Lighting Up, They Lighten Burdens Too

In a postcard to the only Florentine, Ziegler, James W. Dwyer, an ammunition train, First Division, in France, says: "Just a few lines to let you know that I received your kind and most welcome gift. I will not try to place in words how much I appreciate it, for it is impossible to explain."

Boy Buys a Seat on N. Y. Stock Exchange

Telephone Clerk for 8 Years Becomes a Member.

Howard Clapp, who for eight years has been a telephone clerk on the New York Stock Exchange, for Carlisle, Mellick & Co., dealers in old lists of stocks, has purchased a Stock Exchange membership. Clapp is 21 years old, and will execute orders for the firm, which has more partners than are members of the Stock Exchange than any other concern in Wall Street.

Col. Roosevelt Improves Steadily.

Col. Roosevelt continues to improve steadily, it was said at Roosevelt Hospital last night.

All Deceased Farm Survivors

are made at the Farm Survivors. Their success is due to the choice materials and great cleanliness in preparation.

# BRITISH LABOR WILL SEEK FULL POLITICAL RULE

Reorganizes to Take Hand Against Old Parties as New Entity.

TO RUN 400 CANDIDATES

Opens Ranks to All Who Will Sign, Even Though Not Trade Unionists.

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LONDON, Feb. 27.—British labor yesterday threw its hat into the ring. At a conference held in Central Hall, Westminster, it decided to challenge the supremacy of the great national parties of Great Britain.

The conference, which was called by the labor party to consider the draft of the new constitution, voted overwhelmingly for a change in the makeup of the party. The new constitution extends membership to all workers, hand or brain, who are willing to sign the constitution, even if not trade unionists.

Further provision is made for setting up local labor parties in every constituency. These will have special sections for individual members, who will have voting powers in the old trade councils and on the labor representation committees.

Conference Must Approve.

These local societies have been organized, which have chosen their candidates for municipal or parliamentary contests. Their membership consisted of delegates from trade unions and socialist societies, and in some cases from cooperative societies, but only in a few cases have they opened their ranks to individual members.

The local labor parties will be allotted five of twenty-three places on the executive board, but their candidates for office will have to come before the annual conference for election.

Will Fight for All Offices.

During the discussion the question of party funds dropped up. One delegate pointed out that both the big political parties and the smaller ones were engaged in their constituencies, a state of affairs which would be fatal to the aspirations of labor. One delegate said: "We are striking for the salvation of mankind. Every ounce of our energy should be devoted to fighting for positions, but the conference voted strongly for a flat rate for all affiliated members."

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# AUSTRIA NEAR BREAK WITH GERMANY OVER REVEL OF WAR AGAINST RUSSIA

RUSSIANS OFFER NO RESISTANCE

Germans Now 157 Miles Northeast of Riga—Advance to Continue.

ARMISTICE IS REFUSED

Trotsky and Lenin Reported at Odds—Army Fleeing in Panic.

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LONDON, Feb. 27.—In spite of the fact that in most cases the Russians are offering practically no resistance, after refusing to put up a semblance of a fight, Gen. Hoffmann, commander of the German army invading Russia, has announced that the advance will continue until a peace treaty is signed and carried out along the lines laid down by Germany. The message was sent in reply to an inquiry from Kyrensky asking whether an armistice would be declared.

Gen. Hoffmann is said to have sent instructions to his troops at all points to continue their advance as rapidly as possible. The following report, issued to-night from Berlin, tells of German progress since yesterday:

North of Dorpat (157 miles northeast of Riga) we captured two Russian regiments which were retreating. In the Ukraine an enemy battalion which had placed itself across our line of march near Zhitomir, thirty kilometers east of Zhitomir, was dispersed with losses. South of Zhitomir our troops pressed forward as far as Berdichev. At Berdichev, south of Zhitomir, we captured a Russian divisional army staff and 200 men.

Fighting Among Selves.

The only fighting of any importance by the Russians seems to be among themselves or with their former ally, Rumania. A Berlin despatch tells of a continuous struggle in Bessarabia between Bolshevik and Rumanian troops and of severe fighting around Kishinev.

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# Results of 52 Weeks of Ruthless U-Boat Warfare

Losses to British Shipping Alone.	U-Boats	Ships	Total
Vessels sunk Feb. 1917	140	1,100	1,240
26 to Dec. 30, 1917	735	203	938
January 1, 1918	18	3	21
January 8, 1918	1	2	3
January 20, 1918	2	8	10
January 27, 1918	9	15	24
February 3, 1918	10	15	25
February 10, 1918	15	15	30
February 16, 1918	12	15	27
February 24, 1918	14	4	18

Grand total.....821 2,115  
Average number of British merchant ships sunk weekly, 21.44  
Average number over 1,000 tons sunk weekly.....15.79

# SOCIALISTS HIT KAISER'S POLICY

Scheidemann Disavows Dis-  
memberment of Russia and  
Peace by Coercion.

ASKS ONE BY AGREEMENT

Says Recent Strikes Were  
Demonstrations for Bread,  
Freedom and War's Ending.

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 27.—In the debate on Chancellor von Hertling's speech Philip Scheidemann, Socialist leader, said:

"We fought for the defence of the fatherland, against barbarism and against the Entente's plan of conquest. We did not, however, fight for the dismemberment of Russia or the occupation of Belgium. The Government's policy toward Russia is not ours."

"True, the Bolshevik played into the hands of all disintegrating tendencies in Russia, but we do not desire a peace with the Entente like that which is being offered by the German Government must remain ready for real peace by understanding."

"The independence of Belgium must be secured, the Russian and Polish must settle their differences among themselves. We do not desire the humiliation of the enemy or peace by force. The disintegration of Germany, the disintegration of the German Empire, is not our aim. We are not prepared to sacrifice ourselves any longer to assure the triumph of Prussian imperialism."

"An official note of the 15th had announced that the German Government would continue to consider the war as terminated with Russia and would abstain from taking part in the operations planned by the Entente. The second note of the 19th repeated the same statement. When asked to give further particulars at the sitting of the 'Chamber' of the Austrian Imperial Reichsrath, the Austrian Government formally stated:

Attitude Emphasized.

The words uttered by different Deputies have proved that the explanation which has been furnished up to the present by me, has not been sufficiently explicit. I repeat, therefore, that Austria-Hungary will participate in the war only on condition that there is now being carried on by Germany against Russia."

"I repeat that there is no question of having a separate peace with Russia, with whom we are at peace. I repeat that this armistice exists between Austria-Hungary and Rumania and that we will not enter into any peace negotiations with this country."

"These declarations are serious. Without doubt in his speech on February 19 Seydler pleaded his fidelity to the alliance. But more and more Germany runs the risk of seeing Austria and after Bulgaria and Turkey, take a positive attitude, and practically withdrawing from the struggle, witness as spectators the continuation of hostilities."

# PROPAGANDA EFFECTIVE

Recent German Strike Due to Allied Leaflets, Says Wallraf.

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 27.—American, British and French propaganda has had its effect in Germany according to a speech delivered in the Reichstag by Herr Wallraf, Minister of the Interior, yesterday. The speaker saying that the recent strike was due to leaflets from the allied countries, the messages coming from the western front and reaching the interior of the country.

The aftermath of Chancellor von Hertling's speech on peace aims has not been altogether encouraging. Friedrich von Payer, the Vice-Chancellor, made an address in which he offered the Conservative sections seriously, these holding that the German Government should not be drawn into the same level with traitors. The Vice-Chancellor had been particularly strong in his demand that all parties support the Government in the war without regard to their own aspirations.

Ernst von Heydebrand, the Conservative leader, launched an attack on Payer, declaring that "Prussians ought to have been spared the lecture of the Wurttemberg."

Chancellor von Hertling came to the rescue of Payer, and declared that the government in the war without regard to their own aspirations.

# ALL BACK WILSON STAND

His Views on Absence-Lorraine Find No Objectors Anywhere.

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PARIS, Feb. 27.—The authoritative conservative French opinion is to the effect that the action of the recent Socialist congresses in France and England in approving President Wilson's peace aims is altogether presumptuous on the part of the Socialists. President Wilson is not recognized as having anything in common with the Loucheur-Renaudel surrendering government.

Mr. Wilson's declarations on Alsace-Lorraine.

# Recent Meeting Between Kaiser and Emperor Far From Cordial.

# COOPERATION REFUSED

# Use of Troops Against Ru- mania or in Ukraine Op- posed by Vienna.

# CONFLICT IS PREDICTED

# Hint Given That Berlin May Adopt Violent Measures Against Ally.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—Further evidence of the growing strain in relations between Germany and Austria over the refusal of the latter to participate in the renewed attack upon Russia is given in an official despatch received here today from France. It quotes the Austrian Premier as formally reiterating on February 22 that Austria-Hungary will take no part in military action against Russia or Rumania and will not send her troops into Ukraine.

The despatch refers to the meeting between Emperor Charles and William February 22, and says there seems little doubt that serious conflict has arisen between the two nations which Germany is determined to settle by violent measures if necessary.

The despatch follows:

"I have just paid a visit to William II. February 22. I had the honor to be present at the interview. If we are to judge from the tone of the interview it must have been lacking in cordiality. There seems to be little doubt that a serious conflict has broken out during the week between the courts of Vienna and Berlin and which Germany is determined to settle by violent measures if necessary."

Opposed to Prussian Aims.

"The international situation of the dual monarchy is such that the Vienna Government in order to avert a catastrophe has been obliged to distinguish by means of public declarations its own policy from that of Germany. The report that at the conference of February 14 Hertling and Linderhoff had decided to pay the German Government for the evacuation and to prepare to begin again the conflict on the east front caused a great stir throughout Austria."

"It was not simply the dissenting nationalities, the Czechs, the Slovaks or the Poles who do not desire to fight any more, but it is the mass of the population of Germany which is not prepared to sacrifice themselves any longer to assure the triumph of Prussian imperialism."

"An official note of the 15th had announced that the German Government would continue to consider the war as terminated with Russia and would abstain from taking part in the operations planned by the Entente. The second note of the 19th repeated the same statement. When asked to give further particulars at the sitting of the 'Chamber' of the Austrian Imperial Reichsrath, the Austrian Government formally stated:

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